

David Savadge (LM43)

Dear Mr. Randall:

I read your article on pages 15 to 16 regarding the updated Perfins Catalog in the recent *Perfins Bulletin*. One item concerns me - your definition of "the fourth listing" - dates of stamp issue, not dates of perfin use. By listing the dates of stamp issue, you are in effect masking the proper EKU (Earliest Known Use) an LKU (Last Known Use) of a particular perfin. Allow me to demonstrate an example.

I specialize in the philatelic aspects of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition, which translates in the perfin world to Pattern P188. I have researched this pattern for over 25 years, accumulating many examples both on and off cover. Since pattern P188 occurs on *Scott Catalogue* number 332, the two-cent carmine of 1908, by your definition, the period of use would show a start date of 1908. In 1908, the future Panama-Pacific exposition was only a vague idea -- Congress was still debating which city would act as host, no definite dates had been determined, financing had not been arranged, etc. In fact, the full formal name of the exposition was still under discussion.

The earliest known use of pattern P188 is November 14, 1912, on a cover which I have owned since 1971. The latest known use of this pattern is dated

March 9, 1916, where I can record at least a dozen covers with this date. However, the P188 perfin was never applied to any stamps issued in 1916 (anything after *Scott Catalog* number 462). The perfin's use in calendar year 1916 was restricted to older issue stamps still on hand in the offices of the exposition's management; stamps that were used on correspondence relating to the fairs shutting down business operations.

I ask you please to show the years "1912-1916" as the period of use on pattern P188 in the new perfins catalog. And if you would like to, by all means include the days and months for the EKU and LKU.

Let us strive to be accurate in our philatelic literature. Thank you.

/s/ David Savadge

Editor's Notes:

While the current state of the new catalog has not been reported by the US Catalog Editor, I believe that he is close to completing the volume. If you have any opinions or data to bring to the editor's attention -- NOW IS THE TIME.

/s/ John Lyding